

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

The drawings are objected to pursuant to objections by the draftsman contained on form PTO-948 attached to paper number 16. Accordingly, replacement sheets for the drawings addressing these objections are included with this amendment.

Claims 62-67, 123, 128, 130-132, 134, and 136 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,615,625 to Cassidy et al. (hereinafter "Cassidy"). Additionally, claims 124-126 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cassidy in view of U.S. Patent 4,799,435 to Boutroy. Claims 62-67, 123-126, 128, 130-132, 134, and 136 are canceled. New claims 138-159 are added. Accordingly, claims 138-159 are pending.

Claim 138 recites a method of operating a security device to protect contents of a cash cassette. The method comprises receiving a first signal which is indicative of a coupling mechanism of the security device being properly engaged with the cash cassette, receiving a second signal which is indicative of a spoiling mechanism of the security device being properly positioned to spoil the contents of the cash cassette, and in response to receiving the first and second signals, providing a third signal to indicate that both the coupling mechanism is properly engaged with the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned to spoil the contents of the cash cassette, and thereby to indicate that the contents of the cash cassette are being protected.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a method of operating a security device to protect contents of a cash cassette, wherein the method comprises receiving a first signal which is indicative of a coupling mechanism of the security device being properly engaged with the cash cassette, receiving a second signal which is indicative of a spoiling mechanism of the security device being properly positioned to spoil the contents of the cash cassette, and in response to receiving the first and second signals, providing a third signal to indicate that both the coupling mechanism is properly engaged with the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned to spoil the

contents of the cash cassette, and thereby to indicate that the contents of the cash cassette are being protected. Thus, claim 138 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 139 recites a security device for protecting contents of a cash cassette. The security device comprises a coupling mechanism for engaging with a cash cassette, a spoiling mechanism for spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, and a control module for (i) receiving a first signal which is indicative of the coupling mechanism being properly engaged with the cash cassette, (ii) receiving a second signal which is indicative of the spoiling mechanism being properly positioned to spoil the contents of the cash cassette, and (iii) in response to receiving the first and second signals, providing a third signal to indicate that both the coupling mechanism is properly engaged with the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned to spoil the contents of the cash cassette, and thereby to indicate that the contents of the cash cassette are being protected.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a security device for protecting contents of a cash cassette, wherein the security device comprises, inter alia, “a control module for (i) receiving a first signal which is indicative of the coupling mechanism being properly engaged with the cash cassette, (ii) receiving a second signal which is indicative of the spoiling mechanism being properly positioned to spoil the contents of the cash cassette, and (iii) in response to receiving the first and second signals, providing a third signal to indicate that both the coupling mechanism is properly engaged with the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned to spoil the contents of the cash cassette, and thereby to indicate that the contents of the cash cassette are being protected.” Thus, claim 139 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 140 recites a security device for protecting contents of a cash cassette. The security device comprises a coupling mechanism for, when properly engaged with the cash cassette, locking onto the cash cassette to prevent the contents of the cash cassette from being accessed. The security device further comprises a control module for (i) receiving an input signal which is indicative of the coupling mechanism being properly engaged with the cash

cassette to lock onto the cash cassette, and (ii) sending an output signal to a control module of another security device when the input signal is received so that responsibility for protecting the contents of the cash cassette can be transferred between the control modules.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a security device for protecting contents of a cash cassette, wherein the security device comprises, inter alia, “a control module for (i) receiving an input signal which is indicative of the coupling mechanism being properly engaged with the cash cassette to lock onto the cash cassette, and (ii) sending an output signal to a control module of another security device when the input signal is received so that responsibility for protecting the contents of the cash cassette can be transferred between the control modules.” Thus, claim 140 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 141 depends from claim 140 and is allowable for the reasons claim 140 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 141 further recites that the coupling mechanism comprises a plurality of engagement elements moveable between locked and unlocked positions. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 141 in combination with the structure recited in claim 140. Thus, claim 141 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 142 depends from claim 141 and is allowable for the reasons claim 141 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 142 further recites that the engagement elements comprise slidable bolts. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 142 in combination with the structure recited in claim 141. Thus, claim 142 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 143 depends from claim 140 and is allowable for the reasons claim 140 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 143 further recites an

enclosure having an opening for accepting the cash cassette. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 143 in combination with the structure recited in claim 140. Thus, claim 143 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 144 depends from claim 143 and is allowable for the reasons claim 143 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 144 further recites that the engagement elements are sequentially actuatable upon input from the control module to (i) lock onto the control module, (ii) lock onto the control module and the cash cassette, and (iii) lock onto the control module, the cash cassette, and the enclosure. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 144 in combination with the structure recited in claim 143. Thus, claim 144 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 145 recites a cash transit container security system for transporting a cash cassette to an automated teller machine (ATM). The system comprises a locking mechanism for, when properly locked onto a cash cassette, preventing contents of the cash cassette from being accessed during transportation of the cash cassette to the ATM. The system further comprises an activatable spoiling mechanism for, when properly positioned and activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette. The system further comprises a control module for (i) controlling activation of the spoiling mechanism, (ii) sending a signal to the ATM to indicate that the locking mechanism is properly locked onto the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, (iii) receiving a signal from the ATM indicating that the ATM has taken over responsibility for protecting the contents of the cash cassette, and (iv) controlling the locking mechanism to unlock from the cash cassette in response to receiving the signal from the ATM, and thereby to allow the cash transit container security system to be removed from the cash cassette.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a cash transit container security system for transporting a cash cassette to an automated teller machine (ATM), wherein the system comprises, inter alia, “a control module for (i) controlling activation of the spoiling mechanism, (ii) sending a signal to the ATM to indicate that the locking mechanism is properly locked onto the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, (iii) receiving a signal from the ATM indicating that the ATM has taken over responsibility for protecting the contents of the cash cassette, and (iv) controlling the locking mechanism to unlock from the cash cassette in response to receiving the signal from the ATM, and thereby to allow the cash transit container security system to be removed from the cash cassette.” Thus, claim 145 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 146 depends from claim 145 and is allowable for the reasons claim 145 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 146 further recites that the control module communicates with the ATM to validate identities and to exchange data concerning the value and/or denomination of money being transferred. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 146 in combination with the structure recited in claim 145. Thus, claim 146 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 147 depends from claim 145 and is allowable for the reasons claim 145 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 147 further recites that the locking mechanism comprises a latch which allows movement of the cash cassette from a first position to a second position such that movement of the cash cassette from the first position to the second position results in activation of the spoiling mechanism to spoil the contents of the cash cassette. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 147 in combination with the structure recited in claim 145. Thus, claim 147 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior

art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 148 depends from claim 145 and is allowable for the reasons claim 145 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 148 further recites that the locking mechanism comprises a plurality of engagement elements moveable between locked and unlocked positions. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 148 in combination with the structure recited in claim 145. Thus, claim 148 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 149 depends from claim 148 and is allowable for the reasons claim 148 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 149 further recites that the engagement elements comprise slidable bolts. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 149 in combination with the structure recited in claim 148. Thus, claim 149 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 150 depends from claim 145 and is allowable for the reasons claim 145 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 150 further recites an enclosure having an opening for accepting the cash cassette. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 150 in combination with the structure recited in claim 145. Thus, claim 150 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 151 depends from claim 150 and is allowable for the reasons claim 150 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 151 further recites that the engagement elements are sequentially actuatable upon input from the control module to (i) lock onto the control module, (ii) lock onto the control module and the cash cassette, and (iii) lock onto the control module, the cash cassette, and the enclosure. None of the prior art

including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 151 in combination with the structure recited in claim 150. Thus, claim 151 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 152 recites a cash transit container security system for transporting a cash cassette away from an automated teller machine (ATM). The system comprises a locking mechanism for, when properly locked onto a cash cassette, preventing contents of the cash cassette from being accessed during transportation of the cash cassette away from the ATM. The system further comprises an activatable spoiling mechanism for, when properly positioned and activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette. The system further comprises a control module for (i) controlling activation of the spoiling mechanism, (ii) receiving a signal from the ATM allowing the locking mechanism to lock onto the cash cassette, and (iii) sending a signal to the ATM to indicate that the locking mechanism is properly locked onto the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, and thereby to indicate to the ATM that the contents of the cash cassette are being protected and that the cash cassette is ready to be removed from and transported away from the ATM.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a cash transit container security system for transporting a cash cassette away from an automated teller machine (ATM), wherein the system comprises “a control module for (i) controlling activation of the spoiling mechanism, (ii) receiving a signal from the ATM allowing the locking mechanism to lock onto the cash cassette, and (iii) sending a signal to the ATM to indicate that the locking mechanism is properly locked onto the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, and thereby to indicate to the ATM that the contents of the cash cassette are being protected and that the cash cassette is ready to be removed from and transported away from the ATM.” Thus, claim 152 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 153 depends from claim 152 and is allowable for the reasons claim 152 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 153 further recites that the control module measures at least one of walk time, distance traveled, and absolute time since release of the cash cassette from the ATM, and activates the spoiling mechanism if any of the measurements exceeds a preset threshold. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 153 in combination with the structure recited in claim 152. Thus, claim 153 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 154 depends from claim 152 and is allowable for the reasons claim 152 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 154 further recites that the control module communicates with the ATM to validate identities and to exchange data concerning the value and/or denomination of money being transferred. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 154 in combination with the structure recited in claim 152. Thus, claim 154 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 155 depends from claim 152 and is allowable for the reasons claim 152 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 155 further recites that the locking mechanism comprises a latch which allows movement of the cash cassette from a first position to a second position such that movement of the cash cassette from the first position to the second position results in activation of the spoiling mechanism to spoil the contents of the cash cassette. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 155 in combination with the structure recited in claim 152. Thus, claim 155 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 156 depends from claim 152 and is allowable for the reasons claim 152 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 156 further recites that the

locking mechanism comprises a plurality of engagement elements moveable between locked and unlocked positions. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 156 in combination with the structure recited in claim 152. Thus, claim 156 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

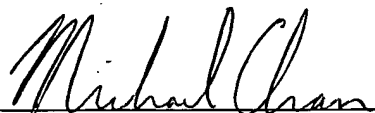
Claim 157 depends from claim 156 and is allowable for the reasons claim 156 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 157 further recites that the engagement elements comprise slidable bolts. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 157 in combination with the structure recited in claim 156. Thus, claim 157 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 158 depends from claim 152 and is allowable for the reasons claim 152 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 158 further recites an enclosure having an opening for accepting the cash cassette. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 158 in combination with the structure recited in claim 152. Thus, claim 158 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 159 depends from claim 158 and is allowable for the reasons claim 158 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 159 further recites that the engagement elements are sequentially actuatable upon input from the control module to (i) lock onto the control module, (ii) lock onto the control module and the cash cassette, and (iii) lock onto the control module, the cash cassette, and the enclosure. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 159 in combination with the structure recited in claim 158. Thus, claim 159 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Chan", written over a horizontal line.

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